The background of the calendar cover is a photograph of a tropical sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow through the clouds. The ocean is visible in the foreground, and the silhouettes of palm fronds are on the left. The overall atmosphere is serene and tropical.

Johnston Atoll

JOHNSTON NORTH EAST SAND

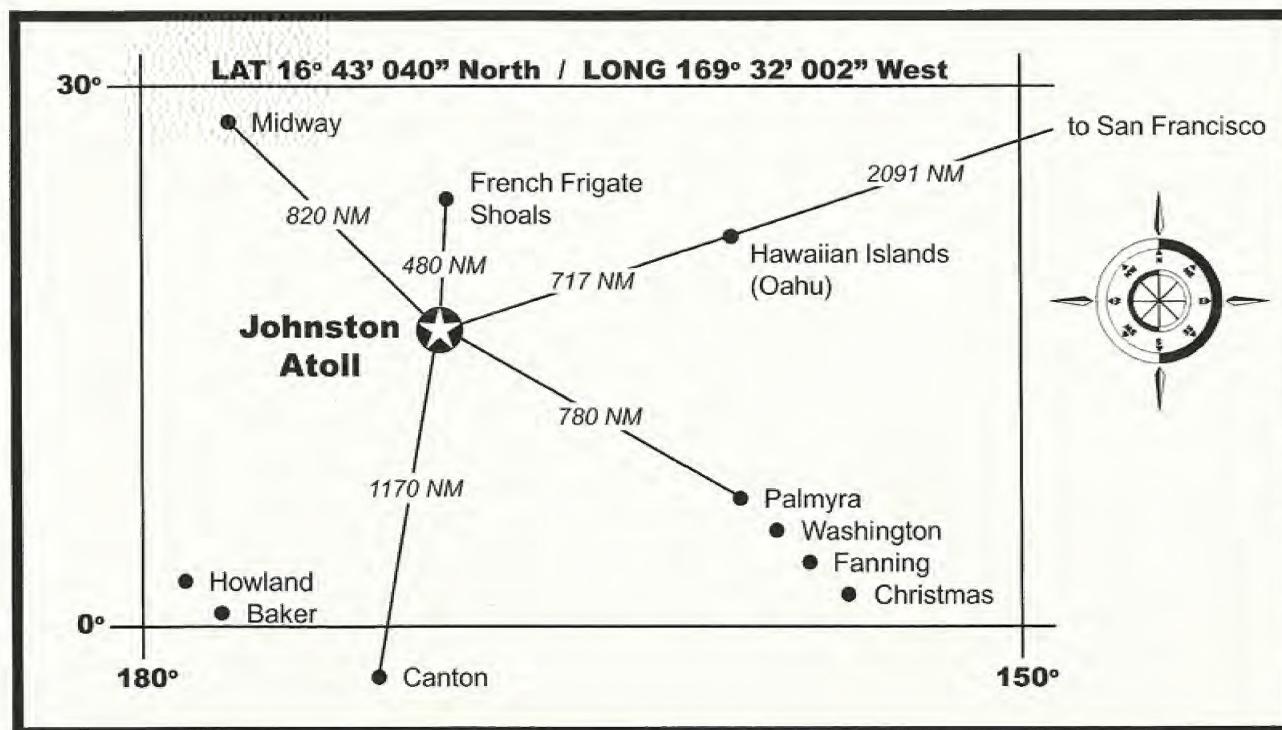
1999 Calendar

Johnston Atoll National Wildlife Refuge

Johnston Atoll, 717 nautical miles southwest of Honolulu, Hawaii, is one of the most isolated atolls in the world. Resting atop thousands of feet of limestone, it is the result of 70 million years of reef growth over an ancient volcanic island.

The reef-enclosed lagoon, approximately 21 miles around, holds four islands: Johnston, Sand, Akua (North), and Hikina (East). Of these, Johnston Island is the largest at just one square mile. However, the atoll's deceptively small size supports a dizzying array of "residents." Included are 302 species of fish, many more species of invertebrates, 28 species of coral, green sea turtles, humpback whales and an occasional Hawaiian monk seal. All four islands serve as breeding and nesting grounds for about 500,000 seabirds. Fifteen species are represented.

Johnston Atoll was set aside as a wildlife refuge in 1926, and is now administered by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The Department of Defense funds many wildlife and environmental studies conducted by USFWS, private environmental contractors, and universities. USFWS and DoD cooperate closely to protect, manage and monitor the atoll's seabird colonies and coral resources.



Island Life

Approximately 1,200 residents of the human variety keep Johnston Atoll's creatures company. Of these, about three-fourths are civilian and about one-third are women.

All tend to find life here a truly unique experience. There are no children, pets or shopping malls. There is no unemployment. Crime is minimal and usually minor. There are no traffic jams. While the bus and a small number of golf carts, cars and trucks can be seen ambling down "Highway 0" during the workday, the primary mode of transportation for most residents is the bicycle.

Where do these islanders come from? All over the United States as well as the world. Some take to life on the island and some don't. People have been known to arrive only to depart on the next available plane, while others have been here for more than 20 years. Most civilians average three to six years. Military personnel are stationed here for one-year tours.

Everyone who lives on Johnston Island works anywhere from 40 to 72 hours a week, depending on the company and task. Precious time off is spent in a variety of pursuits. An extensive Morale, Welfare and Recreation program provides a wide range of facilities and activities.

Once the workday is finished, many beeline for the Sports Complex, Bowling Center, Golf Course or Marina for a good workout or some good fun, while others head over to the Arts & Crafts Center for classes or independent work in silkscreening, wheel-thrown pottery, stained glass or some other creative endeavor. Others can be found relaxing at the Waikiki Hale or Tiki Lounge, reading at the Library or fishing. Marathons, golf tournaments and outrigger canoe regattas often punctuate weekend fun in the sun, and bands from Hawaii and the mainland routinely liven up dances and special events.

The list goes on, but you get the idea. Despite the remote location, Johnston Island offers more amenities than most rural areas of the United States.

Island Lore

Johnston Atoll celebrated its bicentennial in 1996. Two hundred years earlier, on September 2, 1796, the captain of the American brig Sally provided the first recorded sighting of the atoll. For a brief time the atoll was known as Cornwallis, after the next ship which sailed by in 1807, and was later named for the Cornwallis' British sea captain, Charles Johnston.

About 50 years later, the area began attracting interest because of its rich guano deposits. This seabird excrement was worth a fortune as fertilizer. In 1856, the U.S. Guano Act was passed and two owners of the schooner Palestine formed a partnership to develop the guano deposits. Guano was removed from Johnston and Sand Islands for nearly 30 years.

The United States and King Kamehameha IV of the Hawaiian Islands each claimed the atoll as their own in 1858. When Hawaii, by annexation, became an integral part of the United States in 1898, Johnston Island became a fully-American possession, although Hawaii continued to maintain that the atoll was rightfully hers.

Japanese aggression in the Pacific prompted President Franklin D. Roosevelt to place Johnston Island under the Department of the Navy on December 29, 1934. Since then, Johnston Atoll has had a long history of military use, including its role as a launch site for a series of high-altitude nuclear tests in the late 50s and early 60s, and as a navigation transmitting station for the United States Coast Guard.

Almost three decades ago, in 1971, the United States Army gained permission to relocate chemical weapons formerly held in Okinawa to Johnston Island. The United States Air Force also moved Agent Orange stockpiles from Southeast Asia to the island. The immediate issuance of gas masks to all personnel who disembark flights onto the island leaves no question as to the seriousness of what's stored here.

In 1986, Johnston Island began its most current mission: the construction of the Johnston Atoll Chemical Agent Disposal System, better known as JACADS. Completed in 1990, JACADS was put through three years of rigorous testing before full scale operations began in 1993. To date, over three million pounds of chemical agents have been destroyed with no adverse affect on the environment.



Arial shot of Johnson Island (photo: USF&W); the Johnston Atoll Gentleman's Society welcome island newcomers (photo: courtesy of Gil Mustian).

IANUALI

January 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

December 1998

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February 1999

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New Year's Day

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Martin Luther King, Jr.'s
Birthday

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Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day celebrated

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Treasures can be found by beachcomers all around
Johnston Island.

JACADS Plant: Lori Bevan; Point House: Hal
Parker; Glass Balls: Patti Brambila

PEPELUALI

February 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHĀ

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

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Lincoln's Birthday

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Valentine's Day

Presidents' Day
Washington's Birthday

Ash Wednesday

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January 1999

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March 1999

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A rare sighting of an octopus (locally known as tako) disguises himself when diver/photographer Tim Hilliard came by and snapped this photo.

MALAKI

March 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

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St. Patrick's Day

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Palm Sunday

February 1999

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April 1999

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The JOC (Joint Operations Center) acts as the command headquarters on Johnston Island.
Photo: Archive

'APELILA

April 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

March 1999

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May 1999

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Good Friday

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Easter

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Passover

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Wildlife is for the birds on Johnston Island. Red-Footed Booby, Great Frigate, and White Tern are just three of the varieties. Great Frigate and Booby Chick (bottom inset): Jim Snyder; White Tern (top inset): COL Linda Shockley.

MEI

May 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

April 1999

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June 1999

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Mother's Day

Armed Forces Day

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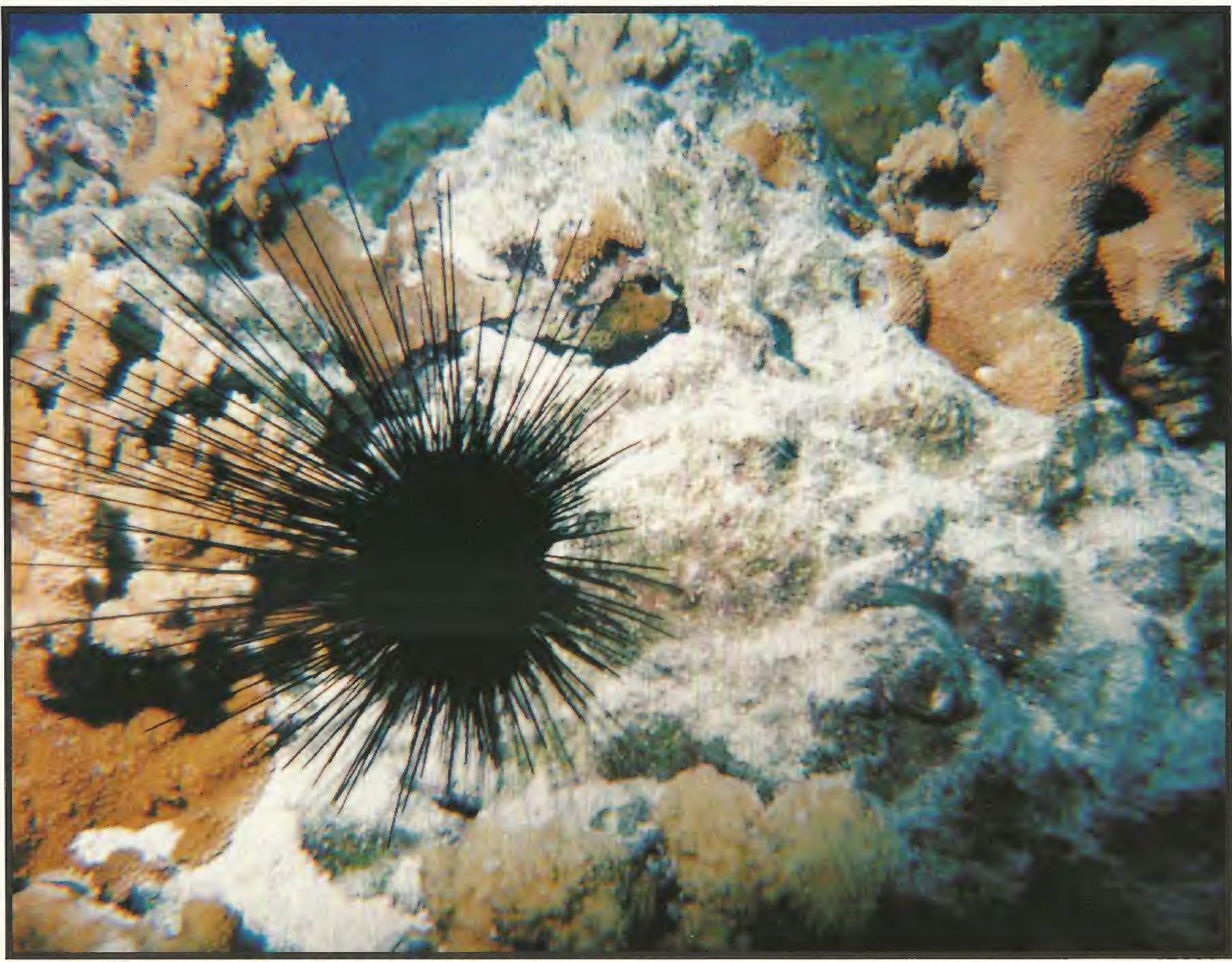
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Memorial Day



A black, spiny sea urchin glides along the coral.

Photo: Bill Knight

JUNE

June 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

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Flag Day

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Father's Day

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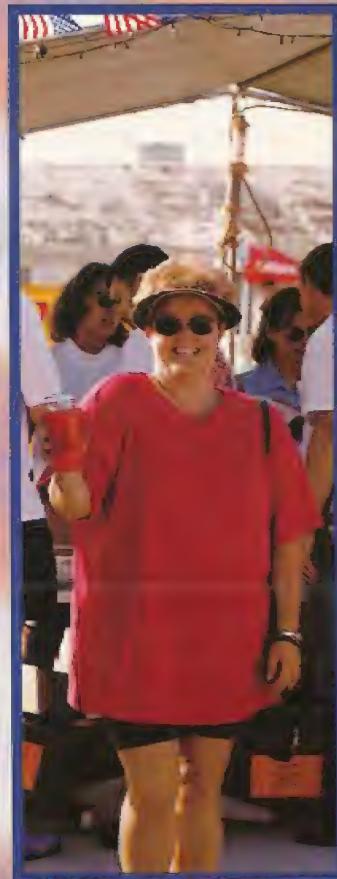
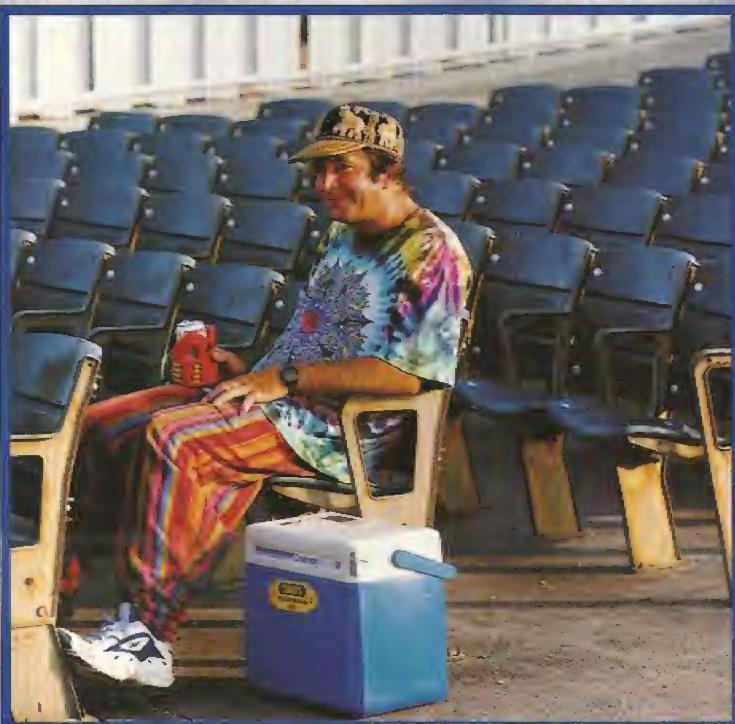
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May 1999
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July 1999
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"4th of July Block Blast" is one of the largest events of the year. Clockwise, from left: Tommy Louden enjoying a cold one; the Air Terminal float, winner of "Most JI Spirit", Karin Demko getting into the spirit, and Mic Boles on his Harley Bicycle. Photos: Dave Shogren.

IULAI

July 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

June 1999

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August 1999

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Independence Day

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From top, Mexican Bird of Paradise, Lantana, and Plumerias are a few of the flowers that grace the island with their beauty and fragrance.

Lantana: Karin Demko; Inset Photos: Patti Brambila

'AUKAKE

August 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

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July 1999

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September 1999

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The monthly supply barge arriving to Johnston Island.
Photo: Dave Bolton

KEPAKEMAPA

September 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

August 1999

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October 1999

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Labor Day

Rosh Hashanah

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Yom Kippur

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It's not just all work and no play on the island. The Golf Shack (*Patti Brambilia*); farewell to friends in the Breezeway (*Jeanie Arakaki*); the annual "Build-your-own-Raft Race" (*Dave Bolton*).

'OKAKOPA

October 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

September 1999

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November 1999

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*Discoverer's Day
(Columbus Day)*

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Halloween



One of the island's most popular recreation spots, the JI Golf Course. Photo: Archive.

NOWEMAPA

November 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

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Election Day

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Veteran's Day

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Thanksgiving Day

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October 1999

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December 1999

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An onlooker admires some of the residents of Sand Island. Photo: Dave Shogren

KĒKĒMAPA

December 1999

SUNDAY / LĀPULE

MONDAY / PŌ'AKAHI

TUESDAY / PŌ'ALUA

WEDNESDAY / PŌ'AKOLU

THURSDAY / PŌ'AHA

FRIDAY / PŌ'ALIMA

SATURDAY / PŌ'AONO

November 1999

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January 2000

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Hanukkah begins

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Christmas Day

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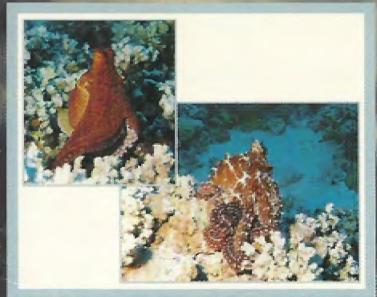
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